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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA'S CAMPUS MEDIA SOURCE

the gateway

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colophon

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Meeting UAlberta

Craig Farkash

ARTS IV



Gateway: What are you riding/wearing?

Farkash: This happens to be Snailsbert. It's the mascot for the Field School of Ethnographic Sensibility that the U of A is running from the anthropology department. We were in Belgrade, Serbia last year — that's where the field school happens — and one of the girls picked up a snail and it became a part of the team,

a part of the family.

Gateway: What made you want to join field school?

Farkash: I'm an anthropology major, so it seemed like the right fit. I've also done a bunch of Study Abroad stuff. It was an awesome program, an awesome prof — one of my favourites, Marko Zivkovic.

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News

SU collaborates on submission for U of A future plans

Jamie Sarkonak

STAFF REPORTER • @SWAGONAK

The University of Alberta is currently in the consultation phase of developing its Institutional Strategic Plan — and the first long-term plan under the leadership of President David Turpin.

In its Discussion Paper, the U of A made a call for feedback from its community to which the Students' Union has responded with a list of recommendations.

The SU's Students' Council, the presidents of undergraduate student associations on campus and the Council of Faculty Associations were consulted by the SU to determine its recommendations in four areas:

Affordability

- Increase the use of open educational resources (OERs).
- Increase the amount of funding for scholarships and bursaries of full and part-time students.

In-class teaching, learning

- Encourage teaching excellence.
- Recognize teaching quality by rewarding quality instructors.
- Outline a multi-year plan for tenure-track positions.

Experiential learning

- Create an office that will centralize experiential learning, like Community Service Learning and Study Abroad.
- Provide more outreach for non-traditional and low-income students to be a part of student leadership.

Campus culture

- Investigate ways students are prevented from becoming involved on campus.



ADVISOR OF ACADEMICS Students' Union VP Fahim Rahman helped develop the SU's proposal to the U of A's next CIP. CHRISTINA VARVIS

- Add to the mental health resources already available on campus.
- Adopt the Student Participation Protocol into campus decision-making processes.

Student leaders have been emphasizing the importance of experiential learning and giving students the opportunity to apply what they learn in the classroom, SU Vice-President (Academic) Fahim Rahman said. One of the SU's recommendations is to create a central office for more hands-on learning. At the moment, the university has a number of

experiential learning initiatives, such as Community Service Learning (CSL), Study Abroad and the Undergraduate Research Initiative. But students face financial and awareness when it comes to accessing these programs, Rahman said.

A centralized office would also help the students of Campus Saint-Jean (CSJ) connect with work experience opportunities, Rahman said. Currently, CSJ students gain experiential learning through the Faculty of Arts' CSL program, but CSL can't guarantee resources to accommodate students of another faculty.

Textbook costs can exist as a financial barrier to student success, so the SU is proposing a greater emphasis on courses using open educational resources (OERs). These are free materials students can use, such as websites, that can save students from using expensive textbooks. Other universities, such as the University of Toronto, have been reportedly successful. Using OERs would be advantageous in standardizing high-enrollment undergraduate courses, Rahman said.

In consultation, student leaders emphasized the need for greater mental health support. Though

the U of A currently funds mental health, at times the resources on campus are "too much like a one-size-fits-all solution," Rahman said.

"(Some students) will go to a mental health service but then are told that they're not in as dire a condition as other students," he said. "That can be really discouraging."

Regarding communication with administration, the SU is encouraging the university to adopt the Student Participation Protocol — an agreement between the SU, the Graduate Students' Association and the Provost's office. The proposed protocol outlines principles the university should use in consulting student groups for major projects. This protocol would work at all levels of governance, and ensure students would be given more information and more time to make decisions. Right now, there are times where student consultation is inadequate, Rahman said.

"(In some situations) either students aren't actively able to contribute to discussions because they aren't given all the information up front, or sometimes information is given to a student in the middle of a meeting," he said. "That makes it tougher for them to process the information."

The SU has proposed the university introduce a teaching tenureship, which student associations have communicated a need. The university's response has been "a little numb" in their discussions of a teaching tenureship as they are in negotiation with the Association of Academic Staff, but the sentiment is that rewarding teaching excellence would benefit the university.

University administration is currently reviewing feedback from the SU and other campus groups. Feedback will contribute to the Institutional Strategic Plan, which will be under revision until its finalization date in June.

Department of Anthropology celebrates their 50th anniversary

Kate McInnes

NEWS STAFF • @KATEMCGUINEAPIG

Over the past 50 years, the University of Alberta's Department of Anthropology, like the cultures it studies, has adapted to the transformations and upheavals in Canadian society.

The Department of Anthropology celebrated its 50th anniversary on Jan. 8, unveiling a new display on the 13th floor of the Tory building, which commemorates the achievements of U of A staff and alumni in the field of anthropology. 2016 is being heralded as a year for the U of A to reflect not only on the success of the department since its inception in 1966, but on the growth of the study of anthropology within an increasingly diverse Canada.

But for Pamela Willoughby, the Chair of the Department of Anthropology and a U of A alumna, the anniversary is first and foremost a celebration of the department's "divorce" from sociology.

"I'm sure it was an amicable split," she said with a laugh.

Anthropology was introduced to

the U of A in the 1950s within the Department of Philosophy and Psychology before moving into the Department of Sociology. Despite their common history, Willoughby said she believes sociology and anthropology share more differences than similarities, and the separation of the two departments has helped anthropology at the U of A "specialize and legitimize itself."

"Sociology is the study (of) the social behavior of people like us, whereas anthropology is (the) study of people who are very different than us," Willoughby said. "Having a (department) that says all human societies have value and all of us should be interested in understanding the differences between human societies ... is very important."

The Department of Anthropology developed during a revolutionary period for Canada's demographic. According to Willoughby, one of the biggest changes in her field came with the adoption of the Multiculturalism Act in 1988, which promoted ethnocultural diversity within Canada. In 1966, less than three per cent of Canada's population was a

visible minority — by 2011, this number had grown to 21 per cent, and over 200 ethnic origins were reported in that year's federal census.

"Now, the world is coming to us," Willoughby said. "As people from other cultures move here, there is a question of how they will accommodate our society, and anthropology can help foster a common understanding of different cultures and our own."

Willoughby said anthropology at the U of A is "smaller than it used to be," partly because disciplines like native studies have also branched out and become their own faculties. For Willoughby, this is not a sign of regression, but an indication of a positive societal shift towards equality and reconciliation.

"(Anthropologists) were once the people who said, 'We need to address these people's issues and concerns,' but now those people can speak for themselves," Willoughby said.

"While we once had the monopoly on Indigenous studies ... anthropology is now allowing for healing."

Emily Parsons is in a comparable



ANTHRO ANNIVERSARY Part of an exhibit located on the 13th floor of Tory. CHRISTINA VARVIS

position to the one Willoughby found herself in 42 years ago when she first came to the U of A. Parsons is currently completing an honours degree, and hopes to focus her studies on gender when she pursues her master's degree in anthropology next year. She, too, noted the effects of progressive social change over the past 50 years on the study of

anthropology in Canada.

"Anthropology ... used to be very male-dominated, and it used to have a much different attitude," Parsons said. "Now I go into all of my classes, and it's all women."

"It's not a boy's club anymore. It's not isolating. We're getting different perspectives now, and it's really, really important."

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PEAKING INTEREST A new online course aims to pique student interest in Canadian mountains.

KEVIN SCHENK

U of A launches mountain MOOC

Mitch Sorensen
STAFF REPORTER • [@SONOFAMITCHH](#)

The University of Alberta's Canadian Mountain Studies Initiative will be introducing Canada's mountains to the world in a new Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) coming this fall.

Mountains 101 will be based on the Canadian Mountain Studies Initiative's introductory class, INTD 280. The MOOC's 10 lessons will teach anyone with access to internet about environmental, scientific, cultural and historical issues surrounding mountains. Mountains 101 will be free for everyone, but U of A students can choose to pay for evaluation and course credit. Students from outside institutions can also pay for course accreditation.

Four instructors who will be delivering Mountains 101 are also teaching the in-class INTD 280: alpine historian Zac Robinson, biology professor David Hik, glaciologist Martin Sharp and exercise physiologist Craig Steinback. The diversity in instructors will reflect the diversity in topics covered in the course, which is what's needed to teach a broad environmental topic such as mountains, Hik said.

"When people go to the mountains, they think, 'What kind of rock is that? What's that bird? Who's the first person who climbed that

mountain?'" he said. "So we try to integrate that in the course."

The Canadian Mountain Studies Initiative is a mountain research and teaching collective comprised of 25 faculty members from Arts, Science, ALES and Physical Education and Recreation. These members are all interested in mountains and wanted to combine to teach and research in an interdisciplinary setting, which is more fun and more effective, Hik said.

"When people think of dinosaurs they think of the U of A. So when they think of mountains we want them to think of the U of A."

DAVID HIK
PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Mountains 101 is currently in production, but it will reach casual and academic students in the Fall 2016. Production does take time and work, but the amount of people the MOOC will reach makes the effort worth it — using the internet as a platform is just one different way to teach, Hik added.

"(As a professor) you're always learning new things, new ways of telling the stories about the

mountains," he said.

Parks Canada has partnered with Mountains 101 to contribute to course content and distribute promotional materials within parks. Lectures and video from Canadian parks will be used to show on-site lessons in real situations, such as controlling avalanches in Rogers Pass of British Columbia. Students will see footage of Banff, Glacier, Jasper, Kootenay and Yoho national parks, while park visitors will see promotional material of the course. The partnership will help get Canada on the map when it comes to the outdoors, project manager Jill Cameron said.

The Alpine Club of Canada has also partnered with Mountains 101 to help film on-site video and help gain access to filming locations.

Three mountain studies INTD courses can be taken from the U of A, including an introduction to mountain studies, an introduction to backcountry field skills and an abroad course in Austria.

The U of A currently offers three MOOCs including Dino 101, whose success has fuelled the Canadian Mountain Studies Initiative in creating Mountains 101, Cameron said.

"When people think of dinosaurs they think of the U of A," she said. "So when people think of mountains, we want them to think of the U of A."



SUPPLIED

Welcome to the new human age: The Anthropocene

U of A scientist lends hand in declaring new geological age, where humans have made a significant impact on the earth

Mitch Sorensen

STAFF REPORTER • @SONOFAMITCHH

Since the Second World War, humanity has put a man on the moon, put a cellphone in the hand of six billion people and flew a plane around the world in just under 58 hours. According to a new article in the journal *Science*, all these events took place in a new geological epoch. This is the new Anthropocene.

A team of international researchers, in disciplines ranging from ecology, soil science, archaeology and history, suggest that humanity's impact on the earth warrants the recognition of the Anthropocene epoch. Introduced as a concept in 2001, the Anthropocene has been a recognized extensively in the academic community, there has been debate as to when it began. Scientists suggest that an epoch is said to end following an event, such as the meteor that wiped out the Cretaceous period 66 million years ago, which severely altered Earth's rock and sediment deposits. Those scientists further suggest that the human race's last 65 years mark a new epoch.

Recognition of this epoch entails confirmation from the International Commission on Stratigraphy, the body responsible for sectioning out geological time. Currently, the Commission recognizes the Holocene epoch as current, stretching from present day to approximately 11,700 years ago at the end of the last Ice Age.

Alexander Wolfe, an adjunct professor of biological sciences at the University of Alberta, is the only co-author of the paper working at a Canadian post-secondary institution. He said that the concept of the



ENTERING A NEW EPOCH Researcher Alexander Wolfe is studying layers of sediment, and subsequently the new Anthropocene. SUPPLIED

Anthropocene arose from the idea of the human species controlling the redistribution of earth materials and most of the world's biological communities.

"The almost exponential expansion of the human enterprise has led to sufficient changes in earth systems that the planet is no longer behaving in the same way it did in the Holocene," Wolfe said. "In fact,

many characteristics are unique in the entire 4.6 billion years of earth history. That should be recognized."

In their work on the Anthropocene, Wolfe said the team of scientists was focused on emphasizing the potential that humankind has to modify the earth on a global level. The way the earth intercepts solar energy, several key chemical cycles and the composition of the

biosphere all show significant human influence.

According to Wolfe, many of these visible changes have origins traceable to the middle of the 20th century, and it was for these reasons the working group decided to mark that time as the start of the Anthropocene.

This period has been characterized by "four factors that occur in

lock-step with each other." These factors are rapid population growth, the urbanization of that population, increased economic activity and energy used per monetary value of trade.

"Those four things don't seem to be slowing down at all," Wolfe said. "If anything, they're accelerating. Hopefully, recognizing of the Anthropocene will lead to greater awareness of some of these risks."

Despite this, Wolfe emphasized that the working group did not look to make value judgments about human activity.

"I'm not saying the Anthropocene is doomsday," Wolfe said. "I'm not saying it's good or bad. Our goal has primarily been to chronicle these things objectively and dispassionately."

Wolfe said there are several other instances in the history of the planet when a species had a similarly profound impact on a global scale. The rise of photosynthetic bacteria and the growth of the first forests exhibited similar instances of visible changes in the environment.

"In the Anthropocene, it's not a forest tree or a microbe," Wolfe said. "This time, it's a bipedal ape with an expanded cranial capacity taking control of the dials for better or worse."

Wolfe said he was proud that the U of A was the only Canadian institution on the paper. In addition, the buzz the paper is generating in Canada is encouraging for Wolfe.

"There has been as much interest in the story from Canada as there has been from any other country," Wolfe said. "We have a lot of great environmental scientists at the U of A, and this is certainly a positive thing for environmental research."

Alberta makes the grade on new food report card, but just barely

Mitch Sorensen

STAFF REPORTER • @SONOFAMITCHH

POWER UP!, a research and policy group at University of Alberta's School of Public Health, has given the province a "C" for its healthy food environments and nutrition for children.

The inaugural report card, which covered the areas of availability, marketing, and pricing of food products as well as the attitudes and beliefs surrounding them, was designed to provide a snapshot of whether Alberta was making it easy for children and youth to make healthy choices. Examining 40 different indicators, grades ranged from "A" to "F."

Kim Raine, a professor at the School of Public Health, is an expert on obesity and nutrition and co-lead author on the 108-page report.

"We often put all the responsibility on the individual when it comes to willpower and resisting those cinnamon buns calling your name as you walk past the cafeteria," Raine said. "We wanted to look at where kids hang out, the messages they receive, and how that supports them in making healthy choices."

One area where Alberta did well was regarding dietary guidelines for children. The Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Children outline those foods considered "healthy" and "not healthy", as well as the foods that should be present in public spaces like schools and

recreation centres. Though POWER UP! handed out an "A" grade in this category, the guidelines are not mandatory, and many public spaces have chosen not to adopt the standards. With a benchmark of 75 per cent for public spaces' healthy foods available as an "A", Alberta schools had an average of 60 per cent, and were given a "C."

"Kids aren't stupid. If their school started adopting the healthy guidelines, they'd just make their way across the field to rinks or pools."

KIM RAINÉ
PROFESSOR, SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Studies found that recreation centres graded even lower, with only 30 per cent of available food classified as healthy. She also pointed out that many rec centres exist nearby to schools, which creates its own set of issues with nutrition.

"Kids aren't stupid," Raine said. "If their school started adopting the healthy guidelines, they just make their way across the field to rinks or pools."

Mandating the implementation of the guidelines that already exist would be a step in the right direction

for Raine. She said making the guidelines more mandatory would have a positive impact on health, without impacting the bottom line of facilities.

Raine said that research supports the idea that sales of healthy foods are proportional to their availability, where if 40 per cent of foods sold in a given location are healthy, the sales of healthy food will be at 40 per cent. According to Raine, the same is true if 70 per cent of options are healthy.

There are regulations in place elsewhere that could have a positive impact on Alberta. Quebec, for example, has had restrictions on marketing to children since the 1980s.

This has had a positive impact on the health of children, especially in the Francophone community.

Though obesity is one metric of childhood health examined in the study, Raine pointed to early-onset Type II diabetes as another ailment brought on by poor nutrition. The additional energy and focus proper nutrition can bring to the classroom is also important.

"Just feeling good and that you have energy is a positive thing," Raine said. "And that comes from good nutrition."

"The simple thing we need to do is to be aware of the messages we're receiving and where they're coming from. To know who's driving those food environments, and ask for better."



UNHEALTHY ENVIRONMENT Temptation to buy sweets is high when they're around. SUPPLIED

UTSU VP impeached amid sexual assault allegations

Tamsyn Riddle

THE VARSITY • UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

TORONTO, Ont. — The University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU) Board of Directors voted to impeach Akshan Bansal, its former Vice-President (Campus Life) from both the Executive Committee and the board. UTSU President Ben Coleman moved to impeach Bansal at an emergency meeting on Dec. 30. The motion to remove Bansal from the UTSU Executive Committee passed with 24 votes in favour, two against, one abstention and one spoiled ballot.

Immediately following the impeachment, the UTSU Executive Committee released a statement encouraging students to hold them to account.

"It is important that, as the leaders of the UTSU, executives uphold the mission and values of the organization," the statement read. "We therefore encourage our members to continue to hold their elected leaders to account."

Bansal was impeached after a public allegation of sexual assault came to the attention of the UTSU executives on Dec. 14. In the hours following the circulation of the allegation, the UTSU released a statement calling for Bansal's impeachment and condemning rape culture on campus. The statement was signed by five of the seven UTSU executives.

"The UTSU does not support rape culture and cultures of violence on campus," reads part of the statement. "Any person who perpetuates these systems of oppression is fundamentally incompatible with our values and mission. We do not wish to have such a person represent us



EXECUTIVE IMPEACHED A U of T Students' Union VP has been impeached after sexual assault allegations were made against him.

SUPPLIED

to students, staff, and club leaders."

According to that statement, Bansal was first asked to resign, which he refused to do, leading the union to request that their board of directors move to impeach him.

Uranranebi Agbeyegbe, president of the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union (UTMSU) and UTMSU designate on the UTSU's Executive Committee, did not sign off on the original letter calling for Bansal's impeachment. Instead, the UTMSU published a statement on Dec. 22 calling for an investigation into the allegation against Bansal.

Agbeyegbe declined to comment for this story.

According to Jasmine Denike, UTSU VP (External), the allegation was a "tipping point," but not the sole reason behind the impeachment. Rather, it was the result of several complaints regarding Bansal's job performance.

"We don't wish him ill and we wish him all the best, but we wanted to make sure students feel safe on campus. That is our first priority," Denike said.

Previous complaints received by the UTSU's Executive Review Com-

mittee (XRC) included claims that Bansal made sexist and sexual comments and was inebriated at work. The XRC investigated the grievances over the summer and recommended that Bansal be placed on probation, but did not recommend impeachment.

Immediately after the meeting at which he was impeached, Bansal told The Varsity that he was distraught.

A new VP (Campus Life) will be selected to fulfil the office for the remaining four months of the term. A hiring committee comprised of

UTSU executives, with the possible addition of one or two UTSU board members, will be responsible for the appointment and will conduct interviews for the position after the Jan. 15 application deadline.

This round of applications marks the third time that the hiring process for the position of VP (Campus Life) has been opened this academic year. Denike noted that this time, the hiring process will be an improvement upon the previous two, where concerns were raised about the disproportionately low number of board members present.

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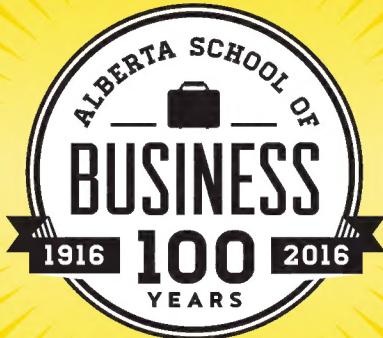
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Opinion

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Winter semester needs Orientation, Clubs Fair

NOW THAT EVERYONE IS OFFICIALLY BACK FROM THE WINTER break, add/drop is upon us, it's time to fully settle into the new semester.

But something always feels less exciting about winter term. There's snow on the ground, it's cold, and the days are shorter. In all honesty, winter semester totally lacks the joy and wonder that the fall holds. You could argue that the overall lack of excitement is due to the weather, but it's a problem that could easily be remedied if a second Week of Welcome was implemented in January.

Sure, right now we have AntiFreeze, which ran from Jan. 4 until Jan. 9. If you missed it, teams of 10 people ran around campus last week participating in a bunch of zany challenges in hopes of winning a ski trip. 2016 saw 29 teams register, totalling around 290 participants. Participating requires the joint necessity of having 10 friends and paying an entrance fee to join in the festivities. It's not exactly the most inclusive event, especially considering it's the only event in January that contributes to getting students more involved on campus. We need more campus-wide events to keep students excited for winter semester.

Most notably, there should be a second round of beer gardens. Yes, it's cold outside. But sell Bailey's and hot chocolate instead of coolers, encourage people to bundle up, and throw a fun party in the great outdoors. Host a snowman making contest and do some shots off an ice ramp. Campus can be gorgeous in the winter, so why not turn it into a fun place to hang out for a couple of days?

Students first attending the U of A in the winter semester are unable to attend fall orientation. There's no group of enthusiastic volunteers to show them around campus and no way to easily meet people in their faculty. Orientation isn't necessary, but it gives people a way to ease into university before the semester's madness starts.

There isn't a Clubs Fair to help them interact either. This week there have been some clubs tabling in SUB, but it's nowhere near the number of clubs you see in fall semester. And as a student group, there isn't the opportunity to table unless you plan ahead, and even then, there's extremely limited space in SUB, making it difficult to book tables at the best of times, let alone recruiting season. Making a dedicated January Clubs Fair would give more groups the space to interact with new students anxious to meet people.

A second Clubs Fair wouldn't just be for new students though — there are always students who don't get involved with clubs until second semester once the initial shock of university has worn off. Face to face interaction is extremely valuable when choosing a club and people will be more willing to pursue a group after a positive interaction with a recruiter. Plus it minimizes the intimidation of walking into a club meeting for the first time to a room full of people you don't know and who aren't expecting you. Sure, clubs can say they are welcoming as much as they want, but sometimes that isn't enough for the average introvert.

These points can be seen as babying new students, and I understand that. You're in university now, so you should be able to go out of your way to meet people and figure out campus. But orientation isn't about just making first years feel safe and warm; it integrates a feeling of camaraderie and excitement for the coming semester for the rest of us too. Seeing those fresh-faced first years brings back memories of when school was fun. The beer gardens are a fun way to enjoy spending time on campus before school gets crazy. And Clubs Fair can give ideas about new experiences to pursue, be it learning about going into medicine from the Pre-Med club or learning that you can pursue journalism by writing for The Gateway without getting a journalism degree.

A happy, activity fuelled campus is the key to getting students interested in what's going on at the U of A. We're a commuter campus, and the way to change that is to offer more events to make the school seem like a better place to invest time than The Rock on Whyte. And with elections right around the corner, the Students' Union should have more of an interest in getting campus interested in its surroundings.

Kieran Chrysler
MANAGING EDITOR

MICROTORIAL COMMENT

Sometimes The Gateway publishes controversial things, as we did this week. Leaving comments on our website as rhetorical questions and/or random insults are appropriate means of expression under certain circumstances, but writing a well-researched, detailed critique of our articles is almost always much more effective and convincing. Our Letters to the Editor section is clearly lacking. Writing an entire article in response and sending it to opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca is even better.

Josh Greschner
OPINION EDITOR

(Re: *Studies & Sex Work*, by Jamie Sarkonak, Jan. 6 2016)

This gon' be fucking good

Mergim
VIA FACEBOOK

(Re: *Studies & Sex Work*, by Jamie Sarkonak, Jan. 6 2016)

It was.

Mergim
VIA FACEBOOK

FROM THE ARCHIVES

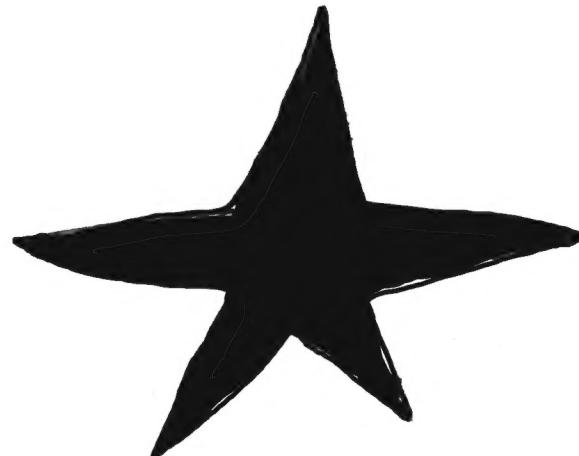
Know your Catholic history, bless

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Volunteer

Opinion meetings every Wednesday at 2pm in SUB 3-04



And the stars look
Very different, today...

JOSH GRESCHNER

letters to the editor

FROM THE WEB

Sympathy for Sleiman

(Re: *Year-in-Review 2015: Sleiman's vote tampering campaign highlights campus news*, by Richard Catangay-Liew, Jan. 5 2016)

I kinda feel bad for the guy. For the rest of his life any time someone Googles him they're gonna see how he tried to cheat on a popularity contest and failed. And for whatever reason people take that popularity contest in university a bit more seriously than they do in elementary school.

Vermin Johnson
VIA FACEBOOK

Hot takes

(Re: *Studies & Sex Work*, by Jamie Sarkonak, Jan. 6 2016)

This gon' be fucking good

Editor The Gateway,
Dear Sir,

I wish to call attention to an historical inaccuracy appearing in The Gateway on Tuesday, Nov. 14th, under an article entitled "Sterilization Today." Therein it is stated: "Roman Catholics continued the practise (i.e. castration) until modern times, to provide male soprano voices for their cathedral choirs."

The statement conveys the impression that the Roman Catholic Church, today an unyielding opponent of sterilization, at one time at least tacitly approved castration, and that her present attitude belongs to "modern times." Had the author of the article to which I take exception taken the trouble to consult the Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics, edited by James Hastings (a non-Catholic and a recognized authority) he would have found the following in the article entitled "Eunuch": "The whole practise (of castration) was definitely condemned by Benedict XIV (1675-1758). SINCE THAT TIME THERE HAVE BEEN NO CASTRATIONS IN THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH [capitals my own], although the utterly indefensible custom of having male sopranos on the Italian operatic stage lingered on until late in the nineteenth century." Furthermore, Benedict XIV noted that he did not live in modern times—declares the mind of the Roman Catholic Church as follows: "The law of the Church is not changed: it pushes by irregularity he who, without necessity of saving

life, consents to his castration. Neither is a man free from sin who, without the aforesaid necessity, performs it (castration) to preserve the sweetness of his voice, that he may be a fit Church singer."

There has never been any official pronouncement of the Roman Catholic Church that could, in any way, be construed as the practise of castration. That there have been abuses along these lines is unquestioned, but to use such abuses as a basis for generalizations and misstatements is hardly scientific procedure.

As a student in a University whose shield carries the legend, "Quaecumque vera," I must protest against such historical inaccuracies that convey such a false impression.

Sincerely,

Michael Dubuc
NOVEMBER 21, 1939

Letters to the editor should be sent to opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.

Islam Awareness Week hosting speakers with suspect views



Cole Forster
POLITICS COLUMNIST

Next Monday Jan. 18, the U of A will start playing host to the fourth annual United Islam Awareness Week on campus. Promoted by the Muslim Students' Association, the series of open lectures has as its objective to answer general questions about the faith and engender a spirit of understanding across religious divides in our multicultural society. As a mission statement this seems perfectly honourable. It's true there are embarrassing factions of our university community that are under terrible misapprehensions about Islam. Lectures and booths that correct certain misbegotten clichés and harmful caricatures should be welcomed with earnest zeal, but this year's Awareness Week features some problematic individuals.

Abdullah al Andalusi is a lecturer, notorious in Britain for his extreme posture even within reactionary political Islam. Known by various names, al Andalusi was once employed by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary to advise on counter-terrorism operations. Once the absurdity of his situation was made public, he was dismissed from service, but The Telegraph ran an interesting piece; a sort of afterthought about the whole affair which exposes the sincerity of the part-time cleric's Islamist convictions.

Writing in Britain's conservative broadsheet last summer, Andrew Gilligan noted that, "Mr. al Andalusi, a prominent figure on the extremist lecture circuit, is closely



CHRISTINA VARVIS

associated with the extremist group Hizb ut Tahrir, which believes that voting and democracy are un-Islamic." On his personal website al Andalusi ponders the decennial impact of 9/11 by referring to event as, "the day a vicious world empire found a publicly acceptable excuse to bomb others, invade non-threatening nations, torture political dissidents and kill at least 300,000 innocent people, in pursuit of economic and political objectives." If you aren't yet bored of this tripe, his commentary on the present state of the Near East is even more

that doesn't immediately tell you everything you need to know about a person then I'm not sure what does. This is a man who considers the tragedy of that solemn autumn morning to have been a simple excuse for our most kindred ally to cynically exhaust a geopolitical region of its industrial and human capital.

If you aren't yet bored of this tripe, his commentary on the present state of the Near East is even more disturbing. He writes, in an online post from June 2014 that Muslims "who reject I.S. merely because I.S.'s school of thought is disagreeable to them, should remember that Islam permits difference of opinion. To reject something as outside the fold of Islam, due to it being a different school of thought to one's own, makes one a purveyor of disunity amongst Muslims (when those opinions are validly derived from Islamic texts)." Even though al An-

dalusi criticizes ISIL for not adhering to the "rules of war" and failing to establish an ideologically sound caliphate, he does make the observation that ISIL has textual justification for their general mission.

Also billed as a visiting presenter is Shayk Abdullah Hakim Quick, a cleric who has been accused, rightly so, of overt bigotry in the direction of gays and non-believers. In response to a group of youth who asked, while he was an imam in Toronto, "what is the Islamic position on homosexuality?" Quick replied, "(plus) my name in the paper. The punishment is death and we (Muslims) will not change." A multitude of his audio lectures contain disparaging remarks about the LGBTQ community and he firmly establishes a brand of Islam that considers homosexuality unpardonably deviant.

I would be aghast at the mere suggestion that either of these speakers have their invitations revoked but I think there needs to be an open and honest discussion about their beliefs and the utility of their ideology with regards to multicultural life at the U of A. The MSA has every right to extend a summons to whomsoever they please. And, I have every right to tell you that certain invitees taking part in United Islam Awareness Week have opinions about your colleagues, about world events and about the way a society should operate that you probably find repulsive. Free speech is an absolute right, I am a fundamentalist in that arena. However, we need to find the courage to challenge extremism and intolerance wherever it arises. So go to the lectures, peruse the reading materials, and if something doesn't sit quite right with your pluralistic, liberal-democratic, modern sensibility, quash your knee-jerk masochistic impulse to feel guilty, and speak up.

Saskatchewan government seems uninterested in rehabilitation



Shaylee Foor
OPINION WRITER

Inmates at the Regina Correctional Centre are eating again, after approximately 160 of the 604 inmates housed there refused trays of food last Thursday. This is the second time that inmates have refused food since the centre switched to a private food service provider in November. The first time was mid-December, when the eggs at breakfast were claimed to be undercooked.

Saskatchewan's premier, Brad Wall, took this opportunity to deliver one of the snappy, delusional, over-simplifications he's recently regained popularity for. When asked for comment, Wall demonstrated a gross willful ignorance of the realities of the prison industrial system, replying, "if you really don't like the prison food, there's one way to avoid it, and that is, don't go to prison."

Given the premier's recent history of public statements, this shouldn't come as a huge surprise. Wall spent a busy 2015 pandering to a voter base that values the status quo and fears change by making lukewarm statements on everything from climate change to the Syrian refugee crisis, branded as the unpopular opinions that everyone else are too afraid to voice. In this most recent case, Wall shows that this issue reaches beyond what's being served

for breakfast. It demands a longer look at how the criminal justice system works, and for whom, to see if "don't go to prison" is such easy advice to follow.

The criminal system in its current state is a means of controlling popular behaviour through a larger system of institutions (including schools, churches, even hospitals), which create what Michel Foucault refers to in *Discipline and Punish* as 'docile bodies'. This same disciplinary system that creates docile subjects also creates delinquency, and while in Foucault's case the delinquent class was the proletariat where the bourgeoisie were politically dominant, prisons today are still deeply embroiled in class and race relations.

- **If (rehabilitation) is the goal, inmates need access to nutritious meals.**

In Canada, the 'delinquent class' is usually poor, and usually Aboriginal, with prisons disproportionately inhabited by Indigenous people, and people living in poverty. Saskatchewan's own dark past of racialized police violence is barely in the rearview mirror, with inquiries into starlight tours as recent as the early 2000s.

That said, even ignoring the many problems with imprisonment as a form of punishment, and assuming that the carceral system works fairly, giving every person

an equal shot at success, the question remains of what prisons are meant to achieve. The name, Regina Correctional Centre, might lead one to believe that the institution's goal is to correct criminal behaviour, and to rehabilitate so that inmates may eventually reintegrate into society as contributing, law-abiding citizens. If that's the goal, inmates need access to nutritious meals, and if there's widespread concern that that need isn't being met, it should be engaged with in a productive way. Instead, Wall has been criticized for ignoring health concerns in order to save money and pursue privatization.

The question of whether the Regina Correctional Centre really is trying to rehabilitate prisoners was also raised in June, when multiple former inmates reported 21-hour a day confinement while on remand, with little or no access to the outdoors, which lasted for years in some cases. With the toll that kind of confinement takes on inmates' both mental and physical health, it's hard to imagine that the priority is creating better citizens. On the contrary, it creates individuals who leave prison without the tools necessary to succeed outside, and who are angry and resentful at a system that failed them.

I'd be interested in knowing whether Mr. Wall thinks that prisons are first for containing or for correcting criminals, but I don't suspect either answer would stir up much voter support, so I'm quite sure he doesn't want to talk about it.



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CHRISTINA VARVIS

Some hot Canadian cities to visit



Gateway
Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY

Rather than going stir crazy and contemplating the velocity at which whiskey bottles would hit the river after being thrown from the High Level, it's nice to get out of this place once in a while. After all, everyone knows that Edmonton isn't the centre of the world. Toronto is.

Beth Mansell – Montreal

If you are looking for a European experience while staying in Canada, Montreal is the place to go. Cobblestone streets and quaint décor line the streets of Vieux-Montréal, while the rest of the city is brimming with student bars and nightlife, offering the perfect setting to practice your drunk French.

Don't speak French? Not a problem, most locals are fluent in English or Frenglish anyway. Montreal's number one feature is its affordability. Home to four major university campuses, the downtown core is full of cheap eats, cheap drinks, and cheap entertainment. Sure, the temperature is 20 below for 4 months of the year, but with winter music festivals like Igloofest, there is not a more enjoyable way to experience hypothermia. The humid summer

is even better. Spend your time getting heatstroke at Osheaga, the world renowned International Jazz Festival, or the Grand Prix. If you ever need a quick escape, a thirty-minute hike up Mont-Royal is right on your doorstep and offers picturesque skyline views.

Despite the sometimes frightening student political climate, Montreal is still the best city in Canada.

Christina Varvis – Vancouver

It seems like every Canadian and non-Canadian out there loves Vancouver and after visiting the city for the first time last year, I can see why. I remember hopping on an Aquabus to Granville Island and thinking to myself that I could actually call this city home one day and be happy, (if I had to move away from Edmonton, which will hopefully never happen because you da one, ryeg). While I was there, I simply loved just being by the ocean while taking in the mountains all around. Vancouver's location alone is something that you can't not love. Walking along their sea wall, across their beaches, and exploring their downtown too with all its restaurants and coffee shops, it's a place that I know I'll be going back to again and again.

Kieran Chrysler – Victoria

I went to Victoria for the first

time over Christmas break and fell completely in love with the atmosphere.

Since it's still such a small city compared to Vancouver, it's managed to maintain a lot of the historic buildings that have been around since the birth of the city. You really get a feel for the old architecture while you're there and the more historic buildings have yet to be overshadowed by skyscrapers like Vancouver and Toronto are seeing.

Along with adorable buildings, the city also excels in being extremely walkable downtown. Now, compared to Edmonton most cities are walkable since they aren't frozen wastelands, but the city blocks in Victoria seem smaller, and as a pedestrian downtown you really feel safe wandering around. The drivers are all so chill. No one has road rage, what a novelty.

But the best part of Victoria is definitely its proximity to water, making the sushi excellent. It seemed that every block had a sushi bar, and every place had excellent food at half the price of the mediocre sushi you would find in Edmonton. It must be wonderful to not live in a landlocked desert.

Zach "Born in a Barn" Borutski – Longview, AB

I drove through Longview recently, and it had an entire store dedicated just to selling jerky. That was pretty cool.

#3LF three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ca, tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

Thanks, I guess.

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mhmm watacha say

Laaaaaaaaaa la la la la

laaaaaaaaa...

some people's lives.....

fat man lumping along

while MY heart is filled with bird-song

my girlfriend is a stone cold fox and

I want the whole world to know it

Bubble tea is not a sustainable

addiction

Neato

Alex

Chitter won't win!

British boys on campus - holla at me :)

Can I set up a pro-choice student group?

what is life

three lines enslaved

Who picks the fashion streeters??

They're NOT fashion

I'm fashion you fuuck

I don't care what you say, I still think

elephants look like large humans

walking around in elephant suits.

You are my Nancy Munn.

Kebab is my dad

I'm not going to be fat anymore

Who's that sex beast in that Lakers jersey? Yummm

Tampon Tampon Tampon
why don't you make a recipe for some crab cakes?

I never even knew what a donair kebab was until I met you

My office is full of Richards

Well great

Hutch I don't know

I think my dad is trans

Slam, Bam, Thank you ma'am

Your edtoons are all fucking weird

I need a haircut

It is time

Just work that body, work that body

Make sure you don't hurt nobody

Hondo

I'm living on the moon journalism



SUPPLIED: JACOB BOTTER

Newspaper comment sections should foster free speech



**Andrew
McWhinney**
OPINION WRITER

Comment sections are some of the most infamous parts of the internet. Everywhere we go on the web there's bound to be one, and inside there's bound to be a mixture of several things: perhaps some praise, maybe some criticism, general feedback, or, more often than not, complete and utter chaos.

This chaos occasionally manifests itself in defamatory comments, which often carry serious legal implications. In order to combat such comments, sites like Facebook, YouTube, and online news services have in place a system to report comments that contain inappropriate content. This allows

for quick and easy removal of these comments when they appear.

From a legal standpoint, some argue that internet comments are considered user-generated content (UGC for short). Typically, online service providers (OSP) such as news outlets and social media sites are not responsible for managing UGC, nor are they responsible for the views contained within it; they simply provide the comment section for users to exercise their right to free speech within the limits of the law, and provide the tools to report inappropriate content and remove it. Recently, however, newspapers are able to be sued for defamation due to comments made on their online sites, and courts are beginning to lean more in this direction.

In 2006, the Estonian online news portal *Delfi* published an article about a local shipping company whose changes to one of their ferry routes

was going to interfere with potential ice roads, which local residents relied upon heavily for their commutes. Angry comments began to quickly spring up on the article, some of them defaming a member of the shipping company board, referred to as "L." Even though *Delfi* removed these comments at L's request, he still sued *Delfi* for damages, and the court ruled in his favor in 2009.

• These comments are the opinions of readers, and these readers should face the consequences of their actions.

The court ruled that since *Delfi* occasionally monitored comment sections on controversial articles for inappropriate content, they should have dealt with these comments

sooner than the six weeks it took them to do so, and also should have predicted that such comments would be made on a controversial article. Guess how much L won? €320, or about CDN \$450 at the time of judgement. Clearly, a fortune.

This, to put it bluntly, is a load of garbage. Newspapers do not have spare resources to be constantly monitoring comments, and being able to only monitor in a limited capacity like *Delfi* was opens up newspapers to tricky liability issues with loads of grey area. There's too much that the paper can miss if they are only able to monitor a portion of the comments on their site at a time. Besides, these comments don't even reflect the views of the newspaper itself. These comments are the opinions of readers, and these readers should face the consequences of their actions if they decide to defame someone online. As long as a newspaper provides the

same tools to combat defamatory comments like other media sites, such as report buttons so that inappropriate content can be identified and removed, they are fulfilling their responsibility as OSPs.

Comment sections are special places where people can come together and voice their opinion on a particular topic. They are battlefields of free speech riddled with bitter remarks and outrage, fire-for-all arenas where etiquette is checked at the door and emotional tensions run high. Sometimes comments get a little too heated, and that's what report buttons are for. Online news outlet comment sections are no different from any other comment section, so they shouldn't be treated any differently.

Oh, and if you're reading this online, please don't comment something defamatory. Someone could sue us.

Occupation in Oregon wildlife refuge by out-of-state militia is futile



**Graham
Hornig**
OPINION WRITER

Over the past few weeks in a rural area of Southeastern Oregon, a small militia force has been grabbing international attention with their armed occupation of a national wildlife refuge. It is apparently over the disputed land rights of local ranchers and hunters, and fighting against the oppression of the federal government towards the people who live there.

Believe me, I'm all for a good wild-west style anti-federalization romp. I understand the timeless struggle of the worker for his freedoms against the oppressive bureaucrat who come and try to bring their laws to the land, no matter how ironically communist this may sound coming from right-wing rural Americans. But against what mainstream media may be selling, this doesn't seem to be the case at all.

According to *The Oregonian*, the original dispute was between the Hammonds, a family of cattle ranchers, and the federal government over public land use rights involving their cattle grazing, and an arson charge over the burning of brush in land adjacent to theirs. While burning fields and brush is a legitimate practice in the right situations as many in rural areas

already know, the US Department of Justice reports that in 2001, Dwight and Steven Hammond ignited fires on lands managed by the US Bureau of Land Management after illegally killing deer with a hunting party.

Enter men with guns. A last stand by the Hammonds against a failed justice system? Fellow neighboring ranchers and townfolk who are ready to show the world how bad they've been abused? A group of Oregonians at least?

Not quite any of the above. The self-proclaimed "Citizens for Constitutional Freedom," started by a rancher from Nevada named Ammon Bundy, appear to be a group assembled for the sole purpose of forming a group and finding somewhere to take a stand. On Jan. 2, the group occupied the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in rural Oregon. Photos show men armed with carbines, covered in army surplus gear and painted with hunter camouflage patrolling and riding on horses, waving American flags and spewing confused political rhetoric.

While the armed group may have gained a few local recruits in their long occupation, Dwight Hammond's close family definitely don't want anything to do with it. They have completely distanced themselves from the operation. One of the Hammonds, in an interview with *Oregon Public Broadcasting* stated she wasn't even sure the purpose of the militia anymore. According to PBS, during a townhall meeting, the



residents themselves voiced their support for the occupants to leave, regardless of whatever cause the militia claimed to be behind.

Mainstream American media and conversation seems to bring in legitimate issues such as rancher land use, racial discrimination by police forces, and the question of the word terrorist when addressing issues of armed domestic insurgents such as these.

In this case however, we're giving these fools with guns too much credit and law enforcement not enough.

Even having a discussion about the matter gives these people a platform for their threats and guns. If we as a whole ignored these wan-

nabe soldiers, they'd probably get bored that there are no cameras pointed at them and eventually head home after they got too cold. Violence is not an appropriate method of protest when everyone else is being peaceful.

Furthermore, the common criticism found online of law enforcement's comparatively passive reaction to these people because they are white is an overgeneralization just as bad as racism itself. No real violence has been conducted yet, and as many of us probably believe too, why go in with guns blazing and take the life of a police officer when they will very probably walk off themselves when they realize how stupid their cause is. As far as

we know up to this point, the militia seem to just be showing off their fancy rifles and camouflage as a show of intimidation — something that isn't too uncommon in rural USA. There's no need to create violence where there wasn't going to be any in the end anyway.

In the end, it's most important to realize that in our modern society, armed occupations deserve nothing more than scrutiny. Giving those with guns the publicity they desire may seem harmless, but it sets a dangerous precedent for motivating similar groups in the future and even, as was the case here, can have little or nothing to do with those involved at the core of the real issues at hand.



Wintering Bees

Written by Josh Greschner & Design by Adaire Beatty

A local beekeeper explains how he prepares his bees for warm weather

Gerard Sieben, a commercial beekeeper of over 40 years, usually wakes on winter days before the sun rises.

"If I'm melting wax, I have a schedule," Sieben says. "If I start at 8 o'clock then I have to switch [barrels] at 8 o'clock every day. If I'm not melting wax, it doesn't matter when I get up."

Sieben is 63 years old. He has white hair, sideburns, enormous arms and hands like bear paws. He calls his commercial beekeeping operation Apiaries of Alberta Pride. On his acreage 40 kilometre outside of the city and one kilometre north of Highway 16, he must, in addition to melting wax in the mornings, shovel the snow from the concrete pads in front of his three shops and plough his driveway with a Bobcat.

"I do what I want to do," Sieben says of working in the winter. Compared to the summer, he says "there's no stress, there's no push."

Before spending the day repairing his machinery, Sieben sweeps the dead bees from the floor of a cold, temperature-

controlled shop housing 450 beehives and approximately 9,450,000 live bees.



The art of beekeeping is the strategic manipulation of various components of a bee colony's environment in order to yield products not limited to honey and wax. Bees produce honey by sucking nectar from flowers and, through a series of physiological processes that occur in individual bees and within colonies, evaporate the nectar into honey, which contains around 18 per cent moisture. Honey is a colony's primary source of feed. Bees produce honey naturally, and methods in modern beekeeping cause bees to produce excess honey which producers harvest.

Summer is a commercial beekeeper's busiest season. As the season progresses, boxes called "supers" filled with nine frames of honeycomb, in which bees store honey, are placed atop hives. Standard beehives are usually at minimum two

boxes high. Once the supers are full of honey, beekeepers manually lift the boxes from the hives, replace the full supers with supers containing empty frames, and return the full boxes to their farms. This process is called "pulling honey." Full boxes can weigh up to 80 pounds, and given that Sieben's 3,000 hives each produce numerous full supers, he says that pulling honey is beekeeping's most laborious practice, even after vast technological and experiential developments from his early days when he worked with his uncle Len, a Catholic priest. In one of his first experiences pulling honey, Sieben's bee suit was a parka and a cardboard box he wore on his head.

"If you ever think you figured it all out," Sieben says, "it's going to bite you in the ass."

"I got the shit stung out of me," Sieben says. He received an adrenaline shot from a nearby hospital and went back to work.

In what is called the "honey house," individual frames full of honey enter a centrifuge called an extractor and honey is spun from the frames and pumped into storage tanks before being poured into barrels. Beekeepers often employ temporary foreign workers for the honey producing season, and from April to October, five Mexican beekeepers live with and work for Sieben. Commercial honey producers sell their honey to large companies such as BeeMaid. 2015 was an exceptional year for Sieben and he produced over 900 barrels of honey.

"When we're shipping everything away, every load that goes out makes me smile," Sieben says.



Sieben grew up on a farm in western Saskatchewan with seven siblings. Rather than finishing grade 11, he moved to Edmonton to weld truck bodies. He says he excelled at his job but it was repetitive, low-paying and unsatisfying.

"Alcohol and loneliness played a big part of it," Sieben says. "You really didn't know where you were going."

In his mid twenties, Sieben became interested in bees after he found out that Len and Len's friend, Archie Demers, worked hives in the summer.

"I went out there one day and they were pulling honey and extracting. Archie had a building that had maybe 100 barrels of honey sitting in it. I did the math and he had about \$35,000-40,000 of honey sitting there. And I thought 'He's going to do this how many times this year? And



I'm working for \$2.50 an hour? There's something wrong with the way I'm thinking."

Sieben learned his craft from Archie, an all-around handyman who built his own hives and honey house. Archie was also an eccentric.

"He lost one eye, he cut a few fingers off building bee hives, and he had one old truck," Sieben says. "I had a lot of good times with Archie. He loved to drink. The thing about him was that he never took life seriously."



Honey production slows into September and beekeepers must eventually decide how to winter their bees. Until Canada closed its borders on bee imports in 1987 to prevent the spread of harmful mites, beekeepers in Canada would often kill their colonies at the end of the honey producing season and rebuild their colonies in the spring.

"We killed them with kindness," Sieben says.

Rebuilding entire colonies was expensive, time-consuming, and made borrowing money from banks difficult because collateral had to be regenerated each season. Sieben's first attempt at wintering bees was a failure.

"I put 250 hives in this building, built shelves, insulated the building, and what I had heard is you have to have a lot of air circulating because these bees use up a lot of oxygen, so I had two fans blowing in all winter. I went back in the spring and there were two hives alive. I took them outside in April and then they frickin' died," Sieben laughs. "It's been a learning process ever since. I'm still farting around with it."

Wintering (also called overwintering) is a series of processes that preserve bee colonies throughout the winter to prepare them for the following honey producing season. According to researcher Adony Melathopoulos (whose 2007 paper *The Biology and Management of Colonies in Winter* informs this paragraph) bees don't hibernate; rather, they cluster in their hives when temperatures drop below 18 degrees Celsius in order to keep warm. Beekeepers must ensure that there is enough honey in hives for bees to feed on during the winter, and the cluster slowly inches from empty to full honeycomb in an upwards and sideways motion, never downwards. This movement, along with bees "pumping" their flight muscles, creates heat. Thus wintering bees relies on maintaining temperatures that are cold

enough to allow bees to cluster and to consume a minimum amount of feed, but not so cold that bees must stay warm at the expense of feeding. Sieben finds that maintaining temperatures between -5 and 5 degrees best serves his purposes.

In order to conserve resources in cold temperatures, colonies produce winter-specific bees. It is generally known that summer worker bees have short lifespans, ranging from about four to six weeks. As early as mid-August, says entomologist Dick Rogers, colonies begin producing winter bees that can live four to six months. It is dead winter bees that Sieben sweeps from his shop floors.

There are two primary methods beekeepers use to control the temperature of their hives during prairie winters, and Sieben uses them both. The first is temperature-controlled interiors. Fans

activate at relatively high outdoor temperatures to cool the space while interiors effectively protect from extreme cold. Sieben's space can hold 800 hives but he chose to house only 450 this year because of the mild winter. His remaining hives are in farmers' fields wrapped with insulated tarps and topped with fastened plywood to prevent moisture from seeping into the hives and to protect them from strong winds. Outdoor wintering has the advantage of allowing bees to fly outside their hives on warm days and defecate during what are called "cleansing flights." Bee excrement looks like small brown spots.

"If you don't know it and you got your car parked close by, they'll shit all over it," Sieben says. "The snowbanks are brown. A lot of people don't know that or they wouldn't be letting us put our bees where they are. That's nature, man."

Beekeeping has been complicated in the past few decades as a variety of bee diseases and pests have not only been discovered by researchers, but covered in the media. Some of the most common afflictions to bees include varroa mites, which feed on the haemolymph (essentially the blood) of bees and make bees susceptible to a virus that deforms wings; American and European foulbrood infects and kills bee larvae; nosema is a parasite that causes bees to defecate in their hives and eventually die.

The most publicized threat to bees is colony collapse disorder, in which bees disappear from hives with sufficient brood and feed but without the microbiological causes of varroa or nosema. The condition has been mysterious to researchers and a serious cause for concern among beekeepers, specifically in regions of the US and Europe. Hive mortality rates have been exceptionally high in the past decade, but according to a 2010 paper by Geoffrey R. Williams et al., colony collapse disorder is too often speculated to be the explanation of dead colonies. Meanwhile, apocalyptic language ("bee holocaust") stimulates the public's imagination. Yet in 2009, American beekeepers rated the threat of colony collapse disorder as only the eighth most important contributor to hive mortality.

Researchers also examine other threats to colonies such as small

warms in March and April, and after mass cleansing flights, hives that remain alive after the wintering period are ready for spring flowers. Colonies dying in the winter is inevitable, and winter losses have been higher in recent decades than they have in been previously. Spring is nonetheless Sieben's favourite season.

"It's like opening up Christmas presents. You're curious to see if your work paid off. Some days you're going to come in happy and other days you're completely pissed with yourself. When I can come home and say 'I opened up 300 hives today and I found 20 dead ones,' it's great. But if I come home and open 300 hives and I find 20 live ones, it's not a very good time of year."



Although Sieben has extensive beekeeping experience, he avoids complacency because of beekeeping's dynamic nature.

"If you ever think you figured it all out," Sieben says, "it's going to bite you in the ass."

Beekeeping has been complicated in the past few decades as a variety of bee diseases and pests have not only been discovered by researchers, but covered in the media. Some of the most common afflictions to bees include varroa mites, which feed on the haemolymph (essentially the blood) of bees and make bees susceptible to a virus that deforms wings; American and European foulbrood infects and kills bee larvae; nosema is a parasite that causes bees to defecate in their hives and eventually die.

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Meanwhile, apocalyptic language ("bee holocaust") stimulates the public's imagination. Yet in 2009, American beekeepers rated the threat of colony collapse disorder as only the eighth most important contributor to hive mortality.

"We're learning a lot more," he says.

"Definitely, if a guy closed his mind and said 'I'm not going to treat,' he would disappear."

hive beetles (which feed on pollen, honey and brood, and secrete slime), neonicotinoids (insecticides) and various viruses. Nonetheless, beekeeping and honey production in Canada has thrived. Statistics Canada reports that the total number of colonies in the country has increased from 592,120 in 2009 to 721,106 in 2015, and honey production,

renovated home after checking his wax melter, his hives, and the temperature of his cold room. His wife, Kathy usually cooks for the two of them but Sieben often insists on preparing chicken — rather than laying a chicken flat in a pan, he sits the chicken up as if the pan was its hot tub and stuffs the chicken's skin with discs of onion.

"It's been a learning process ever since. I'm still farting around with it."

"There's Johnny," Sieben says, referring to his creation

"There's Howdy Doody," Kathy says.

After dinner, he watches the Oilers, of which he has multiple opinions. For the first time in his life, evenings are a time to relax.

"When I turned 60 I quit working evenings," Sieben says. "Most of my life I worked 7 in the morning to 11-12 at night. For a lot of it too, I worked full time and kept a part-time job and kept bees on the side. I did the two to keep one going. It got to a point where bees started making more money than anything else and finally, you kept rolling the money in. It came to a point where it looks after you."

He puts his arm around Kathy.

"If you're fortunate enough to know what you want when you're 20, you're lucky. But most people look back and say 'This is what I am now' and don't know how the hell they got there."

Sieben seems to remember how he got to where he is, but it's the task of Kathy, his two sons and their wives, his grandkids and his extended family to get the stories out of him. He'll continue making stories because he isn't interested in retiring. In the upcoming years, he plans to work as many hives as he does now, if not more.

"You never retire," Sieben says. "Even guys that retire still fart around with bees."

"He's going to keep going until he can't do it anymore," Kathy says.

"I don't know how anybody retires," Sieben says. "What are they going to do? Sit in a corner and watch every nickel? You might as well be working."

In spite of his youthful boasts (Sieben convincingly advocates for the rejuvenating effects of daily honey consumption), age slows him to the pace of wintering bees.

"I usually don't last past 10 o'clock," Sieben says, sleepily.

Sieben returns to his newly-

Arts & Culture

fashion streeters

COMPILED & PHOTOGRAPHED BY Christina Varvis



GATEWAY: What attracted you to all your pieces?

TARRABAIN: I got them shipped from China, I just sign up for this box thing through this website and they send me clothes in my size. Sometimes, I got sent these horrible overalls and the crotch was down by your knees and the legs were unreasonably short. It was very confusing.

GATEWAY: What inspires your style?

TARRABAIN: What's in my closet in the morning that isn't dirty.



TJ JANS

Violinissimo returns to Convocation Hall

MUSIC PREVIEW

Violinissimo II

STARRING Guillaume Tardif (violin) and Roger Admiral (piano)

WHEN Friday, Jan. 15 at 8:00 p.m.

WHERE Convocation Hall

HOW MUCH \$10 Student \$20 Adult
\$15 Senior (Tickets available online at yeglive.ca and at the door 30 minutes prior to the performance)

Eryn Pinksen

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

This Friday at Convocation Hall, students will be given the opportunity to experience live classical music. For most students, this is a stretch from what usually appears on study playlists. However, violinist Guillaume Tardif speaks passionately of the connection created when an audience takes in classical live performance.

"Fortissimo is an extension of forte and pianissimo is an extension of piano, they are the extremes: this is Violinissimo, it is to bring attention to those extremes," says Tardif.

Violinissimo II is the second installment of a concert set that Tardif has put together on the violin with Roger Admiral on the piano. Together they play arrangements of classical pieces that they have hand picked from the 19th Century to display the intricacies of the violin's capabilities.

Tardif is a violin soloist who is well known in Edmonton for his involvement in the arts community and he was named one of Avenue Magazine's "Top 40 under 40" back in 2012. He's written numerous violin arrangements himself, while his knowledge of music is fast, his research specifically focuses on the history of the violin. Tardif is heavily involved in the global music community, as he teaches master classes internationally, collaborates with many incredible musicians and adjudicates performances all over the world.

Tardif praises his partner Roger

Admiral and his masterful ability to play incredible pieces on the piano; they have done several concerts together, including a performance at Carnegie Hall, and are excited to add another to their repertoire of shared concerts.

In Violinissimo II Tardif says, "a heroic violin will be presented" because of the strong technical aspects of 19th century violin music, from composers such as Wieniawski, Auer, Wilhelmj, and their contemporaries. Tardif explains the many evolutions of the instrument itself and how the music began to shift with the turn of the century. As he excitedly says that his inspirations are the violin heroes of whose works he will be performing.

"In the 19th century we didn't have TV or movies with special effects so going to a virtuoso concert was like going to Cirque du Soleil. They were well-attended events but now it is difficult to gather a crowd without massive investments and publicity. There was an excitement there to see a violinist in action. Nowadays the standard has raised quite a bit," says Tardif.

Despite the difficulties in gathering a large crowd, Tardif is confident that classical music will not die out because of the time that people invest towards it and because of the qualities it has that people continue to talk about.

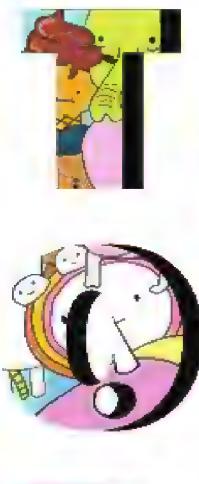
The violinist places a strong emphasis on valuable moments and he explains his fear that we live in a dangerous culture where moments are easily lost due to the connection to the Internet and they will not be appreciated. But he fondly takes the time to mention the kind hearts of musicians because they understand this value of moments.

"A message that is important for us as a department to stay alive and to keep the fire burning is to create events that value moments and if people miss the moment well too bad, but we warned them," says Tardif.

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Volunteer

Arts meetings every Wednesday at 4pm in SUB 3-04

Adventure Time secondary characters



PHOTOSHOP BY KEL NISCHENK

Kieran Chrysler
MANAGING EDITOR • @CHRYSLERRR

For the uninitiated, *Adventure Time* is a Cartoon Network show consisting of ten-minute long episodes about the Land of Ooo, a fictional representation of Earth several thousand years after nuclear war. In a world rife with magic, mutants and overall malarkey, it's a fun, insightful show about friendship.

For fans of the show, there could be a never-ending debate on the lovable main characters, and everyone has an opinion on who is the most compelling. But, instead of getting into that, we can think about some of the best secondary characters while we patiently wait for season seven to finally start airing regularly (Seriously, the "Stakes" series was great but where are the consistent new episodes).

5. Cosmic Owl

In the early seasons, Cosmic Owl was a mere dream omen who you did not want to have show up while you sleep. But later in the series, we get an episode to interact with Cosmic Owl, and learn that while he is a transcendent cosmic being, he is still a flawed dude who will do anything for love, including mess with people's dreams.

4. Root Beer Guy

One of the candy people in the Candy Kingdom, Root Beer Guy is a nice dude who settled down with Cherry Cream Soda and is trying to live life to the fullest. He wants to break out of the path that was set out for him when he was created Princess Bubblegum, and who can blame him for that? Plus he's a bad boy at heart and just wants

to be a detective, which makes for some interesting storylines.

3. Breakfast Princess

One of the many princesses that populate the Land of Ooo, Breakfast Princess runs the Breakfast Kingdom and lives in a castle made of pancakes, bacon and juice. Viewers only get to interact with her once during the series, but she's arguably the most intriguing as in the short time we see her, she both disses LSP and tries to tackle the recession that the royalty is facing. She just wants to get shit done, and in a world full of prim and proper princesses, we need one who was not willing to put up with LSP's shit.

2. Kim Kil Whan

Kim Kil Whan is one of Jake and Lady Rainicorn's five offspring, and

the definition of 80s business guy. After becoming annoyed with his father's childish antics, he buys the deed to Finn and Jake's treehouse, and subdivides it into 30 rentable suites, because "deeds don't bleed." He's endearing as one of Ooo's only entrepreneurs, but he still finds a soft spot for Jake, because he isn't completely heartless and can't watch his dad on the streets.

1. Peppermint Butler

It's not often that you'll find a character that both takes care of royalty, and also worships evil. He's willing to do anything for Princess Bubblegum, but will take on the darkest villains who dared to cross him. He'll bring you tea and tackle The Lich all in one day. Overall, he's the most hardcore of the candy people, making him the best secondary character of *Adventure Time*.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
ALUMNI

brew crew**Innis and Gunn Rum Finish** WRITTEN BY Mitch Sorensen

Bought for me for Christmas by my alcoholism-encouraging mother, the Innis and Gunn Winter Taster pack contained this gem of an ale, as well as a pleasantly sturdy bottle opener. Aside from the stainless-steel, top-popping trinket, the Scottish brewery's oak-aged Rum Finish creation is delicious, even if it leads to palatal burnout.

With a substantial, fairly foamy white head and a deep, nut brown colour, the newest member of Innis and Gunn's core range is appetizing to the eye. Resembling a stout or porter when poured, only the cream-coloured head gives away the lightness of texture.

Much like the rest of their products, the oak of the barrels it's aged in smacks you in the taste buds from the first sip of suds. Left to get to know the wood for 57 days

before bottling, the beer goes into the glass at 6.8% ABV, just enough for a crafty, taste-centric brew.

Once you get past the oak and your brain confirms you are, in fact, drinking a beer, you can begin to enjoy the intricacies in the palate. Beginning with a burst of chocolatey fruitiness, a bubbly, delicate mouth feel creates a kaleidoscope of flavors. Reminding you of dark beer, scotch, and an Edible Arrangement all mashed together, the bipolar flavors actually end up complementing each other quite nicely. Oh, and the finish tastes like rum.

Though it is completely delicious, the all-out assault it wages on your taste buds means that you'll likely only want one glass before you move onto something a touch simpler and less highbrow.

**flop culture**

WRITTEN BY Raylene Lung

Minions

I'm just going to go right ahead and say it: the Minions are the procreation of the spawn of Satan. Just thinking about their unexplainable anatomically-confusing bodies sends me into a fit of angst. I don't know whose moron stunt this was to create these little fuckers, they're nothing but pure evil.

I bet you any money if Trump is elected in 2016, they'll be contracted out to build his wall. After attempting to boycott those irritating mustard-coloured fuckers ever

since they poisoned the lives of children and yes, adults, I am infinitely sick of seeing them on the shelves of Walmart, the desks of professors and around every goddamn turn. They have contaminated the world of children's movies then advanced their domination onto toys, lunchboxes and whatever the fuck else they were able to put their creepy hands on. The culture that has formed around these characters has infiltrated every aspect of social life—there is no safe zone.

If I hear someone so much as utter about crescent shaped fruit in that annoying, teeth-clenching mimic one more goddamn time, I will proceed to find the nearest sharp object and progressively eliminate the Dreamworks animators who formulated these pests. Don't even

get me started on the sounds that exude/emanate from their pieholes: are they irritating chuckles or a conglomeration of incessant noise compiled from depths of hell. You cannot browse Tumblr without coming across their irritable grins. Minion-themed phone case? How about I just drink cyanide instead.

If you're still on the hunt for your New Year's resolution, I suggest setting a goal to completely assassinate Minions from life as we know it. Please, I think we're all begging humankind for salvation.

Flop Culture is a semi-regular feature in which Raylene bitches out how awful minions are. Imagine minions taking your jobs, watching you sleep, stealing your tacos, not so cute now, are they?

datapp

WRITTEN BY Jon Zdziarski

**Chess Free**COST Free
PLATFORM iPhone, Android

Are you sick of being addicted to Candy Crush, Angry Birds, or Clash of Clans? Do you want to look cool in public instead of looking like one of those free-mium game weirdos? Want to master one of the world's classiest games? Start playing some God damn chess.

Trainer mode lets you practice against a variety of different difficulties, ranging from computers which moves at random, to the average chess player, to world championship calibre and of course everything in between. Chess Free is a great learning tool for aspiring players. There's options to turn on suggestions if you're feeling stumped or lazy and if it's your first time

playing Chess, you're definitely going to need them. Do you know how to en passant? Do you know what the elo rating system is? In time you'll be impressing your friends with these fancy chess terms.

There's also a two player mode if you're with a friend and looking to kill time. After enough training against the computer, you'll easily be able to wipe the floor with any beginner. They'll marvel at how smart you must be.

This app would essentially be flawless if it wasn't for the fact that you start out with 20 credits and if you lose against the trainer, you lose a credit. While if you win, tie, or queen a pawn, you'll receive a credit. If you run out of credits, you'll have to purchase more (don't forget to thank freemium gaming for ruining everything). If you're struggling on the difficulty tone it down, there are no heros in chess, or free-mium gaming.

Datapp is a semi regular feature where I write about how I play chess when i'm doing a poo. Still better than browsing Instagram or Facebook while you shit.



SUPPLIED: ADAM B. ELAWSK

The passing of an icon, we'll miss you David Bowie

Alyssa Demers & Jason Timmons
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

David Bowie.

A man of intrepid force with a presence like no other artist. He challenged the notion of pop music and influenced an entire generation of artists to do the same. Back in a more conservative time, he singlehandedly challenged the notion of gender presentation and hypermasculinity.

Through his 26 studio albums, Bowie never lost momentum and constantly pushed the envelope in terms of creative expression and quality music production. He passed

away on the evening of January 10, 2016, from an 18-month battle with cancer. At 69 years old, he was creating music until the day he died, having released a music video the day before for his new album, *Black Star*. David Bowie lived first and foremost for his fans and for his passion for creating music.

Bowie was an eccentric new perspective to the rock scene. His second studio album *Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars* catapulted him to instant success with hits like "Ziggy Stardust," "Space Oddity" and "Starman." His concept-type albums and multiple personas created a live performance

and stage presence like no other. His androgynous, flamboyant personas of Ziggy Stardust and Aladdin Sane were prevalent over the years in his recorded and live work. During his shows, he would cross dress and embody these personas, while engaging with the audience and dancing in a provocative, innovative way. While he challenged hypermasculinity and gender expression, people from all over the world saw him as an icon. Coming out as queer in the 70s, he was one of the first artists to be openly queer; this inspired many to follow in his footsteps and be their authentic selves.

Following his death, people all over the world regarded him as their first queer icons, and admitted that Bowie gave them the strength and courage to try new things, to be authentic, and in some cases, to continue living. David Bowie saved them, in many nuanced ways, with his music and with his courage to be himself.

Throughout the 70s and 80s, David Bowie created hit after hit, with 1973 album *Aladdin Sane*, 1977's *Heroes*, 1983's *Let's Dance*. He released his first greatest hits album *Changes in 1990* and did not lose steam, producing albums up until his death. His persona may have shifted

over the years, but his impact stayed constant throughout his life. David Bowie was one of the most influential and important artists of all time, and his legacy lives and breathes through his music. Although the passing of David Bowie is an immense loss, he continues to live through his music and the impact he made on the world. He is not gone from our lives.

In the words of the man himself, "I don't know where I'm going from here, but I promise it won't be boring." David Bowie was indeed, not boring and he will continue to be an otherworldly phenomena. Rest easy among the stardust, Ziggy. You will be dearly, profoundly missed.

Bowie's dominance and consistency through the 70s and 80s



Hunky Dory
1971

Released in 1971, *Hunky Dory* was one of Bowie's first offerings to the world. Exploding onto the world stage in the form of dreamy pop riffs, catchy choruses, and heartfelt piano, *Hunky Dory* is filled with hits that pervade modern culture even forty-five years later. Perhaps two of Bowie's most well-known early tracks, "Changes" and "Oh! You Pretty Things", open this album with a mix of soulful guitar and easy-listening accessibility. *Hunky Dory* demonstrated, among other things, a great understanding of what it took to create a pop hit. Its release marked the beginning of Bowie's commercial success, elevating his career to a point where he could begin to tackle the more ambitious and experimental projects he would later become known for. This album stands as the foundation for the house of Bowie's career, without such a solid set of building blocks, his career may never have evolved into the glamourous abstract art piece we know it as today.



The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars
1972

Despite there being less than a year between the release of *Hunky Dory* and *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars*, the two albums share almost no stylistic or musical similarities. *Ziggy Stardust* served as Bowie's fist major expedition into the depths of glam rock, as well as the idea of concept albums. Glistening synths appearing in the background of most tracks, heavy modulation often effecting Bowie's voice. However, ever innovating, Bowie didn't stay within the usual confines of glam rock, incorporating soulful bass lines and even a horn section into multiple tracks across the album. *Ziggy Stardust* was conceived from the invention of Bowie's alter-ego of the same name; this persona would go on to become known as one of Bowie's most contrived and influential artistic offerings. *Ziggy Stardust* was a major commercial success for Bowie, proving that experimentalism and risk-taking were worth it, allowing further — and weirder — artistic expression in the years that followed.



Aladdin Sane
1973

Prior to the release of Bowie's sixth studio album, *Aladdin Sane*, Bowie had achieved international Rock-star status based on the success of previous albums. Riding on his recent success, Bowie made a departure from the glam-rock stylings he had become known for, instead pursuing a sound that can only be described as pure rock-and-roll. While this departure was unpopular with fans at the time of the album's release, looking back, it's easy to see the importance of this album as a noted turning point in Bowie's career. *Aladdin Sane* was less of a concept album than *Ziggy Stardust*, and featured very little of the pop exploration found on *Hunky Dory*. Instead, *Aladdin Sane* served as a symbol of Bowie's artistic evolution, one where, upon gaining fame, he no longer had to rely on the shock-and-awe of glam rock, instead resting upon the laurels of classic rock-and-roll. An album does not have to be exceptional to be influential; such is the case with *Aladdin Sane*. It's important, when looking back, to note major turns in style and substance of an artist's work; *Aladdin Sane* most notably fulfills that requirement.



Heroes
1977

Jump forward four years since the release of *Aladdin Sane*, Bowie has been touring and writing endlessly. Along comes *Heroes*, an emotionally vulnerable and artistically charged album that excelled equally at expressing style and substance. Utilizing a broad range of atmospheric effects and instrumental modifiers, *Heroes* was grounded in a sound that defined the experimentation culture of the 70s. Written as part of the three album *Berlin Trilogy*, *Heroes* expressed a greater level of social commentary than previous albums, with common themes surrounding the existence of the Berlin Wall. This album worked to showcase, above all, Bowie's talent as a songwriter, with all lyrics appearing on the album credited to him. *Heroes* is full of life, yet exists within a state of wistful sadness. Bowie's wailing vocals mark a more emotionally exposed artist, one who is, perhaps, more willing to be vulnerable within the safety net of fame. David Bowie was undoubtedly the musical king of the 70s blazing through his own artistic progression and releasing more albums than there were years in the decade.



Let's Dance
1983

Perhaps Bowie's most well known album, "*Let's Dance*" marked the end of his reign over the international pop scene that spread from the early 70s to the mid 80s. *Let's Dance* is arguably the most accessible album ever release by Bowie, oftentimes falling back on easy pop riffs and catchy lyrics to be more appealing to a wide audience. Artistically, *Let's Dance* showcased the end of an era, one where Bowie was free to experiment and freely innovate without fear of commercial retaliation. With a release that was arguably more about style than substance, Bowie had seemingly surrendered to commercial interest and made an album for the masses. Make no mistake; *Let's Dance* was still a musical powerhouse, featuring unforgettable tracks like "Little China Girl", and the title track, "*Let's Dance*". While a noted departure from Bowie's previous releases, *Let's Dance* was critically acclaimed and commercially successful, cementing Bowie forever among pop-music legends.

Sports

Puck Pandas ring in new year with sweep over Bisons

Zach Borutski
SPORTS EDITOR • @ZACHSPRETTYCOOL

The Pandas hockey team started the New Year on a winning note this past weekend, sweeping their weekend series against the Manitoba Bisons with a pair of shutouts: 2-0 on Friday night, and 3-0 on Saturday night.

The Pandas got the scoring started early on Friday, with Alison Campbell wiring a shot past Bisons' goalie Rachel Drayc 18 seconds into the opening frame.

The rest of the game was a defensive battle, with the Bisons holding a slim 11-10 shot advantage heading into the third period, while still trailing 1-0. Ultimately, the visitors couldn't solve Pandas goalie Lindsay Post, and Campbell added her second goal of the game into an empty net to give the green and gold a 2-0 win.

The quick start was key to the Pandas' success on Friday according to head coach Howie Draper.

"When you get the first goal, it helps you settle, relax, and just play your game," Draper said.

It was more of the same on Saturday night, with the Pandas playing more lockdown defence. The shot counts were even in the first period at six a piece, but the Pandas emerged with the only goal, as Megan Eady's seeing-eye shot found the back of the net.

The Bisons held an 8-5 shot advantage in the second period, but weren't able to get anything past Post, and the Pandas put the game out of reach in the third period, getting goals from Cayle Dillon and Sasha Lutz to make the final score 3-0.



RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR Pandas hockey swept their first series of 2016.

For Draper, strong play on defence was the key to victory this past weekend.

"(The players) get the idea of shrinking the zone now, and the

idea of taking away as much space from the opponent as they can," he said.

"When everyone's on the same page with the system play,

obviously things are a lot more effective."

This defensive dominance starts from the net, and goaltender Lindsay Post has been on a roll of

JOSHUA STORE

late. She's recorded shutouts in five of her last six starts, stopping 105 of her last 107 shots.

"When you've got a goalie that's that confident in the net, and you know that if you make a mistake she's going to back you up, then that gives you a little more confidence with the puck," Draper said.

The two wins move the Pandas into sole possession of first place in Canada West, and Draper said it was good to earn them against an opponent like the Bisons.

"It's always nice to beat Manitoba because they're such a strong team, and they're gritty, and they play with an edge," he said.

Despite this, Draper emphasized the fact that all the games remaining on the schedule are crucial.

"It's always nice to beat (Manitoba), but it's no more important than any game we've got coming up," he said.

"Looking at the standings, literally any team in the conference could still finish in first place depending on what might happen... so every game is important."

The Pandas currently sit two points clear of the Saskatchewan Huskies for first place in Canada West, and now face a matchup with the UBC Thunderbirds, who are third in Canada West, four points behind the Pandas.

"I think we're just going to stay the course, they're very much like Manitoba, they're a very well coached team. They'll work very hard, and they're also very gritty," Draper said.

The Pandas face off against the Thunderbirds on Jan. 15 and 16 at the Thunderbird Sports Centre in Vancouver.

Bears hockey travels to Manitoba, opens 2016 with two losses

Zach Borutski
SPORTS EDITOR • @ZACHSPRETTYCOOL

The Golden Bears hockey team stumbled out of the gate in their first series of 2016, losing both of their games last weekend to the Manitoba Bisons.

The Bears dropped a high-scoring affair on Friday night, surrendering a season high in goals in a 7-4 loss. The game was tied 4-4 heading into the third period, but at that point the Bisons took over the game, scoring three goals in a six-minute span en-route to the win. Winnipeg native Jordan DePape was the driving force behind the Bisons offence, scoring a goal and adding three assists.

Head coach Serge Lajoie said that the Bears' compete level wasn't up to their usual standard in Friday's loss.

"We weren't ready to compete at a level that would allow us to win," Lajoie said.

"We had chances to take hold of the game, but we just didn't show the determination level required to come out on top."

The second game was closer, but ultimately the Bears fell short again, surrendering the winning goal to the Bisons' Shaq Merasty with just over a minute left in the third period. DePape had another

good game for the Bisons, registering two assists in the victory, while the Bears got goals from Kruise Reddick and Riley Keiser in the loss.

The Bears heavily outshot the Bisons over the course of the weekend, registering 39 shots on Friday, and 48 on Saturday, but the Bisons goaltending held strong, especially on Saturday, when Justin Paulic made 46 saves in the victory.

"We weren't ready to compete at a level that would allow us to win."

SERGE LAJOIE
BEARS HOCKEY COACH

Despite heavily outshooting the Bisons, Lajoie emphasized that the Bears need to bring a more consistent effort to the rink each week.

"We're not winning games on talent alone, and we didn't show up this weekend ready to compete at a level for us to be successful," he said.

"We've been talking about whether we want to call it relentless effort, or championship effort, and we fell very short of that this weekend. Frankly, I was very disappointed."

The two losses drop the Bears to

five points behind the Saskatchewan Huskies for first place in Canada West, and they now only sit one point clear of the Mount Royal Cougars, who currently reside in third.

Some coaches would be tempted to start watching the scoreboard more as the season progresses, but Lajoie said that the standings weren't his concern.

"We have a longer distance to make up, not in terms of catching Saskatchewan, but more in terms of getting ourselves ready for playoffs," Lajoie said.

"It's not even game to game, it's day to day, and we missed an opportunity last week to fully prepare ourselves."

The Bears will now return home to host the UBC Thunderbirds this coming weekend, and Lajoie once again stressed the higher level of effort required for the Bears to be successful.

"It gets down to a willingness to compete with a higher level of grit and to find ways to win games," Lajoie said.

"We're going to elevate our level of compete in every aspect of the game... the mental preparation is what we're lacking the most right now."

The Bears will host the Thunderbirds on Friday, Jan. 15, and Saturday, Jan. 16 at Clare Drake Arena.



TOUGH START The Bears opened the second half with two losses.

ROB IN FL

John Scott: NHL All-Star?

Forget about his skill level, the fans want John Scott in the game



Dan Guild
POINT

Let's all take a moment to agree that the thought of John Scott leading a team on to the ice during all-star weekend with a 'C' sewn to his chest is absolutely hilarious.

It's also something that would have many of the all-time great players and Hall of Famers of our sport questioning the integrity of the All-Star game, and rightfully so. But the fact of the matter is that the all-star game today is not what it once was. These days nobody cares whether they win or lose. I mean how can you take it seriously when you're being interviewed and receiving a pass at the same time? Keep in mind this is now a game that some of the chosen players find loopholes to actually opt out of playing. Sidney Crosby has participated just once in his 10-year career and will miss it again this year, and even Jaromir Jagr publicly admitted that he is "too old" and would prefer to take the week off. Plus the simple rule that every NHL team must be represented by at least one player means that we're not seeing the 44 best players in the NHL anyway.

Surely Atlantic division fans would like to see Pavel Datsyuk or Jack Eichel comprise their offence, but no

the Maple Leafs need a guy, so suit up Leo Komarov! In Arizona, it's obvious that rookie sensation Max Domi or defenceman Oliver Ekman-Larsson would fit in better with the all-star crowd, but without a player in the top 40 of NHL scoring why not hand the baton to your minor league team's enforcer if the fans get a kick out of it. And that's the bottom line after all.

• Whether you're in favour of it or not, enough people decided they wanted to see an unworthy player at the all-star game for a change.

Though the format, intensity, and consistently ugly jerseys have changed drastically over the years, the one thing that stays true is that All-Star weekend is for the fans. Back in the day the draw was to see the best players gather in one city for a couple days. Now, if they wish to see a 6'8" 270 pound tough guy try to dangle the puck between Shea Weber's skates only to trip over the blue line then so be it, we'll all have fun watching him try.

Whether you're in favour of it or not, enough people decided they wanted to see an unworthy player at the all-star game for a change, and for a mid-season spectacle that is desperate for a boost in interest, this will add a brand new level of intrigue to the game that has never been there before. And for that, John Scott, you have my vote

This is a joke, and everyone's laughing at John Scott, not with him



Cam Lewis
COUNTERPOINT

On the surface, this appears to be a cute little story about fans rallying behind a lovable, working class grinder who, after paying his dues in the league for years, is rewarded with an appearance in the league's All-Star game that we can all cherish for the rest of our lives. But it isn't. This is about grabbing someone that nobody really has any sentimental attachment to as a player or an individual and turning them into circus act.

I mean, who cares, right? It's the All-Star game. It's a joke. It should be a spectacle, and the players don't care enough to make it exciting. The fans deserve to do something to make this travesty of a mid-season classic somewhat worthwhile, even if it involves pointing and laughing and the worst hockey player employed in the league, right?

Yeah, sure, but let's just be honest about it. Let's not pretend we're rewarding John Scott the *unanimously-chosen fan favourite*; let's be honest and openly acknowledge that we want to sit there and laugh at John Scott the *hilariously bad hockey player* get completely outclassed by the likes of Patrick Kane, Erik Karlsson, and Tyler

Seguin in a three-on-three tournament.

If you want to tune into this game for the sole reason of watching somebody without much skill at hockey get embarrassed over and over again, you're a jackass. You're the type of person that would vote for the nerd in high school to be prom king, not because you secretly knew they grew up dealing with a lot of bullshit and this would be a nice way for them to wrap up their teenage years, but because you wanted to snicker at the idea of them actually being the *legendary prom king* standing there next to the queen.

• If you want to tune into this game for the sole reason of watching someone without much skill at hockey get embarrassed over and over again, you're a jackass.

I don't know John Scott personally, and I'm guessing he'll take this whole thing in stride considering he's accepted and embraced the nomination, but to me this just reeks of finding comedy through the act of bullying, and we shouldn't pretend it's anything more than that. All that this situation accomplished is that it further reminds the world that the NHL's All-Star game is awful, and that our sense of humour as a society is even worse.



UNLIKELY ALL STAR Thanks to the fan vote, John Scott will be playing in his first all star game this year.

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Fancystats

A beginner's guide to rejecting what you think you know about the game of hockey and embracing analytics

Cam Lewis

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • @COOOM

It's time to accept that (nearly) everything you know about hockey — the traditional, conventional wisdom spewed between periods about heart, hustle, and going up and down the wing and giving it 110 per cent — is all a bunch of pointless crap. No matter how much you think you understand the game, how high of a level you played at back in your glory days, or how many different hot takes you've listened to on the radio or read in a Hockey News magazine, the best and most efficient way to objectively understand the value brought to the ice by different players is through analyzing at a collection of underlying statistics.

The NHL, and the sport of hockey in general, is changing. All sports are. We now have the resources and technology available to track and sort information on games and players that nobody would have dreamed possible even a few decades ago. Organizations are jumping through hoops, climbing steep mountains, and throwing money all over the place to figure out a way to gain a competitive edge on their opponents.

Baseball was the first sport to smash its head through this wall. If you've ever read *Moneyball* by Michael Lewis, or watched its film adaptation, you'll know that Billy Beane, the General Manager of the Oakland Athletics, rejected conventional baseball wisdom because he was the victim of it. He was a tremendously talented athlete who was talked into leaving a scholarship from Stanford on the table to sign with the New York Mets as an 18-year old, and unfortunately for everybody involved, that scout that pegged him as the next Hank Aaron got it all wrong. Decades later, Beane has been destroying classical baseball knowledge down from the inside, opting to view players objectively and looking at the process of their accomplishments rather than their results.

That's what we're trying to do now with hockey, and as expected, it's being met with mixed reviews. Players, coaches, members of mainstream media, and fans alike have a hard time grasping the idea that a player with a 40 Corsi for percentage at even strength is getting eaten alive

"If a player does a lot of good, hard work, but it doesn't lead to a shot attempt, does it really matter?"

when game in, game out, they have the pleasure of watching them throw hits, dump and chance effectively, and win face-offs. Because those are all things we've been conditioned to accept as meaningful elements of a successful hockey player.

I mean, Corsi, Fenwick, PDO, WIWY, Zone Starts, and all that are just random terms. You can't quantify what it takes to win a hockey game with a single number and there are endless amounts of intangibles that go into making a good hockey player.

That might be true, but we can break down what winning a hockey game is into its simplest terms and go from there. Winning a hockey game comes down to scoring more goals than your opponent. In order to do that, you more than likely need to have more scoring chances than your opponent, and if you don't you'll need to either rely on your goaltender being amazing, or your opponent's goaltender being, well, not amazing. Let's start from there.

The first thing to understand with hockey analytics is possession numbers. If you're sitting at a bar and somebody says to you "Pavel Datsyuk isn't all that good a player," you can interrupt them, put your hand in their face, and say "well, no, his possession numbers..." and then trail off, have a sip of your drink and smile because you'll have won the argument.

When you hear the term possession, you'll probably immediately think of the time in which one team has the puck under their possession. That's right, almost. We don't just sit there with a stopwatch and time how long the Detroit Red Wings have the puck on their stick, we use Corsi and Fenwick events, or shot attempts, to figure it out.

"Organizations are jumping through hoops, climbing mountains, and throwing money all over the place to figure out a way to gain a competitive edge on their opponents."

Corsi is simply a shot attempt. Nothing more, nothing less. So whenever a player skates over the blue line and fires a puck towards the net he gets one Corsi point. Fenwick moves a step further and tracks unblocked shot attempts because they better represent what was actually a scoring chance. So what we're doing here with these stats is determining that the team who has the most Corsi events, or the most shot attempts, is generating more meaningful possession than the opposing team. The face-off win, the board battle, the chip past the defenceman, the pass in the neutral zone — all of that represents meaningful possession, and generally, aside from the occasional outlier, all of it leads to a (shot attempt) Corsi or a Fenwick event.

Possession stats can be applied in a variety of different ways depending on what you want to look at. In a team setting, you can look at how a team performs in possession to get an idea of how well they played. If the Oilers have a Corsi for percentage of 37.4 (this happens a lot) then they were eaten alive. Over time, sample sizes grow and we can start to make legitimate conclusions about which teams are performing well and which ones aren't.

When looking at a player's possession numbers, we can make it

comparing a player's Corsi numbers when they play against different players, when they play with different linemates, at different points of the game, and when they start in different zones.

The possession stat can be manipulated to show to what extent a player is helping his team generate chances to score, and by osmosis, helping his team win. If a player does a lot of good, hard work but it doesn't lead to a shot attempt, does it really matter? Scoring is the point of the game, so if you aren't creating those chances, you don't really have value to your team.

After that, the next important thing to recognize is PDO.

Remember earlier when I said if a

team doesn't generate more scoring opportunities than their opponent, they would need to rely on either their goalie being good or the other goalie being bad to win? That's what PDO seeks out.

Also known as SPSV%, PDO is essentially the luck stat. This is what we use to apply to a team like the 2013-14 Colorado Avalanche or 2014-15 Calgary Flames to determine that they were full of shit. A team with bad possession numbers but a high PDO is getting by on either a very high shooting percentage or a very high save percentage at even strength. That's all this stat is. An addition of even strength save and shooting percentage that ends up somewhere around 100. There's a good chance that if your PDO is above 102, you're going to crash down to earth, and if your PDO is below 98, you're a good candidate to pull it together and bounce back.

Obviously some teams have horrible goaltending and some have excellent goaltending, so there are always going to be outliers, but if a team is at the basement of the league in possession and at the top in PDO, something's going to have to give because hot goalies and snipers cool down eventually.

So with possession numbers and luck stats you have the basis of how to understand the surface of hockey analytics. There's a lot more to dig into (like why plus minus is stupid, why things are best analyzed at even strength, how to adjust for score and situation) but I can't keep rambling on forever, so I'll leave it at that for now.

There's a ways to go with this whole thing and it's far from perfect, but that's part of what makes fancystats so fun. Hockey analytics is in its infancy, and a lot of really smart and interesting people are working hard to push it forward, so getting involved in the discussion now is an exciting opportunity for anybody who's interested. There are blogs all over the internet dedicated to tracking and analyzing stats and figuring how to better understand what players can bring to the table (or ice) that people overlook for a variety of different reasons, and slowly but surely, it's being embraced by mainstream media and professional organizations.

Just remember to be open to new ideas, and be ready to toss what you know out the window. Because no matter how much you think you know about the game, there's bound to be something that you missed.

T O D S

Blunders in the history of the NFL postseason

Zach Borutski

SPORTS EDITOR • @ZACHISPRETTYCOOL

5. Roger Craig fumbles away the three-peat: The 1991 NFC championship game saw a matchup of powerhouses: pitting the 13-3 New York Giants against the 14-2 San Francisco 49ers. The game carried significance for the 49ers especially, as they were attempting to win a third straight title game, a feat that no other team had accomplished.

It was a defensive battle from the outset — with the 49ers taking a slim 13-9 lead into the fourth quarter. Although the Giants were able to pull within two with a field goal, it looked like their time was running out. The 49ers had the ball with less than three minutes left in the game, and all they had to do was run out the clock.

With 2:36 left in the game however, 49ers running back Roger Craig fumbled the ball on the team's 40-yard line, allowing the Giants to drive the other way and ultimately score the game-winning field goal. There still hasn't been a team that has won three consecutive Su-

per Bowls to this day.

4. Trey Junkin loses the handle: The football gods would even the score in the 49ers-Giants rivalry 13 years after Roger Craig's fumble.

This time, it was the Giants coughing up a lead, and a much more substantial one at that. The Giants held a 38-22 lead at the start of the fourth quarter, but allowed the 49ers to storm back and take a 39-38 lead.

The Giants were able to get into field goal range, but long snapper Trey Junkin, who had been signed out of retirement a week prior to the game, botched the snap, and the holder's weak pass attempt fell incomplete.

Interestingly enough, NFL Vice President of Officiating Mike Pereira did admit after the game that a pass interference call against a 49ers player was missed, and that the down should have been replayed.

3. Tony Romo can't hold the ball: Truly a play worthy of Tony Romo, the last second botched hold in the 2006 AFC Wildcard game against the Seattle Seahawks

reminded many people of how much they love to hate the Dallas Cowboys.

Those same Cowboys hadn't won a playoff game in nearly 11 years when they were faced with a 19-yard chip shot to almost assure them a spot in the NFC Championship.

What happened next was almost too implausible to believe.

Romo was tasked with holding the ball, but fumbled the snap. He attempted to run the ball to the end zone, but was tackled, ended the Cowboys' season.

The Cowboys would have to wait until 2009 to win a playoff game, and haven't made the Super Bowl since 1995.

2. Wide right: A 47-yard field goal is not an easy feat, but given the stage and expectations for the Buffalo Bills, it still qualifies as a huge blunder.

The Buffalo Bills rode an explosive offence to their first-ever Super Bowl appearance, and were met by a stingy New York Giants defence that had surrendered the fewest points in the league during the regular season.

It was a matchup worthy of a close game, and that's exactly what the fans got, with the Giants leading 19-17 when the Bills attempted their last second field goal. Scott Norwood would go on to miss the kick, cementing his dubious place in history in the process. This is still the only Super Bowl that has ever been decided by a field goal with no time remaining.

1. Seahawks call the wrong play: Everyone and their grandmother expected the Seahawks to run the ball, but Pete Carroll showed us all why there are no guarantees in football.

After Jermaine Kearse's amazing, juggling catch brought the Seahawks to the red zone, a touchdown seemed all but assured. After all, they had Marshawn Lynch, AKA "Beast Mode." The odds of the Patriots stopping him from the one-yard line seemed slim.

But Lynch didn't even get a chance. Carroll called a pass play, and rookie Malcolm Butler picked off Russell Wilson at the goal line, and one of the most unlikely Super Bowl victories of all-time was written into the history books.



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Johansen for Jones shows risk of blockbuster trades in today's NHL

Christian Pagnani

SPORTS STAFF • @CHRISPPAGNANI

The NHL isn't the trade friendly environment it once was. The salary cap and parity among the league has created a league in which players who are slightly overpaid can't just be shipped off to another team or simply banished to the minors. Most roster moves are found through waivers as fans plead for even the most minuscule of trades.

Up until last Wednesday, a swap featuring Zack Kassian for Ben Scrivens was the most significant trade of the year, and neither were even in the NHL at the time. Since then Vincent Lecavalier and Luke Schenn are now in Los Angeles, Mike Richards signed in Washington, Emerson Etem is a Vancouver Canuck — but most importantly Seth Jones was traded from Nashville to Columbus for Ryan Johansen.

It's easy to understand the hesitation a team might have about moving a very valuable player like we saw in the Jones for Johansen trade. Although the trade makes so much sense that it was brought up on

Twitter and message boards months before it actually happened, there's still a large amount of risk in this type of deal. Nobody wants to be the guy who gave away Joe Thornton or Tyler Seguin.

Nashville finally acquires a number-one centre they desperately lacked, and they only gave up a player who was playing on their third-pairing. Jones was likely going to pass Ryan Ellis, and maybe even Shea Weber on the team's depth chart, at some point, but instead of waiting, Nashville capitalized on Columbus' shaky relationship with Johansen and made the deal.

There's still risk to it: Johansen only has two years left of control until he hits free agency, and the cost to sign him long-term might be astronomical — if he decides to stick around. Jones could rise to become a top defenceman, but Nashville still retains most of their defensive-depth and the addition of true top-line center justifies that risk.

Columbus' side of the deal carries significantly more risk. While Jones is younger and pushed play in the right direction in Nashville,

he won't have the same supporting cast in Columbus and will face other teams' top opponents playing under John Tortorella. Nashville had the depth on defence to part with Jones and still carry a well-balanced team, but Columbus doesn't share that same depth at centre. Now Brandon Dubinsky and Boone Jenner will be put in the number one and two roles, leaving them without a true number one centre, instead banking on Jones becoming a top-pairing defenceman.

The Jones for Johansen deal shows the difficulty in making trades, let alone a blockbuster, player-for-player swap like this one. In order to make such a deal there is most likely an incredible amount of risk being taken by giving up that quality of player, and then hoping your new player can fulfill the role the role you want them to. Johansen is the better, but slightly older, player right now, but with unrestricted free agency looming ahead and the potential of Seth Jones developing after playing big minutes, it's anybody's guess as to who will come out on top on this trade.



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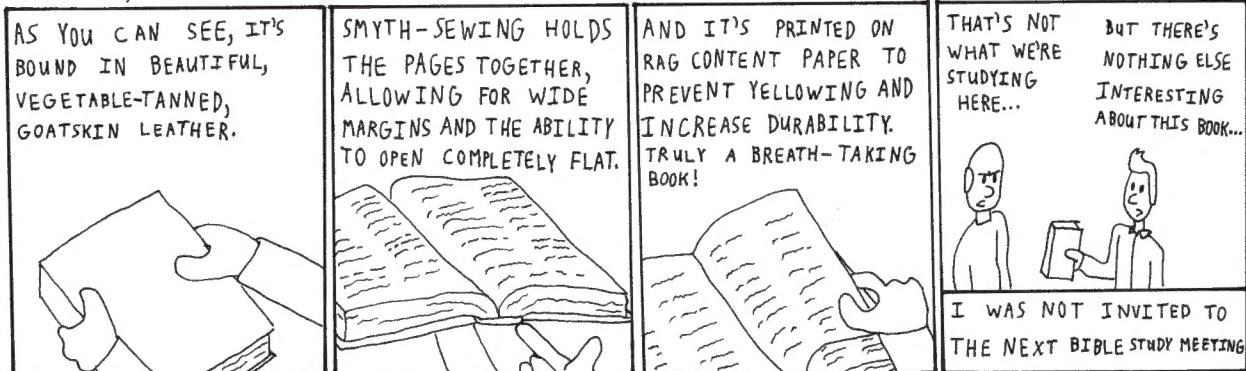
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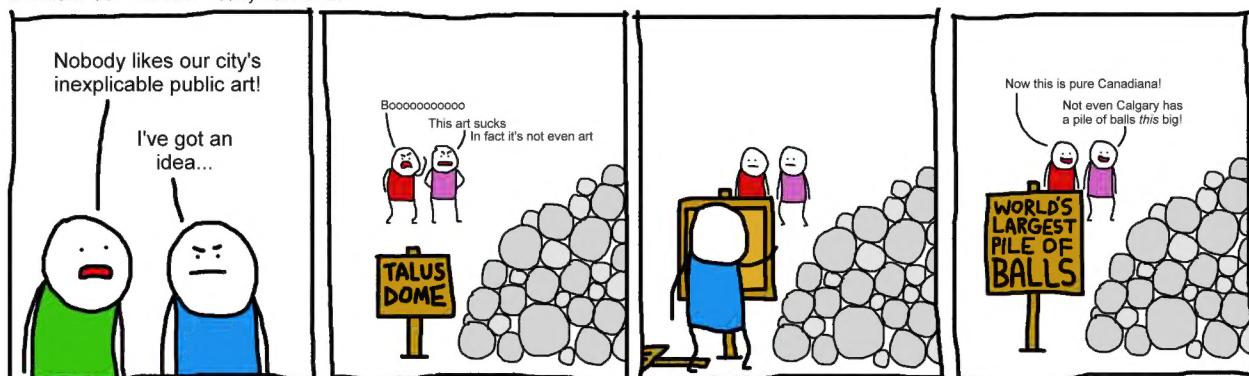
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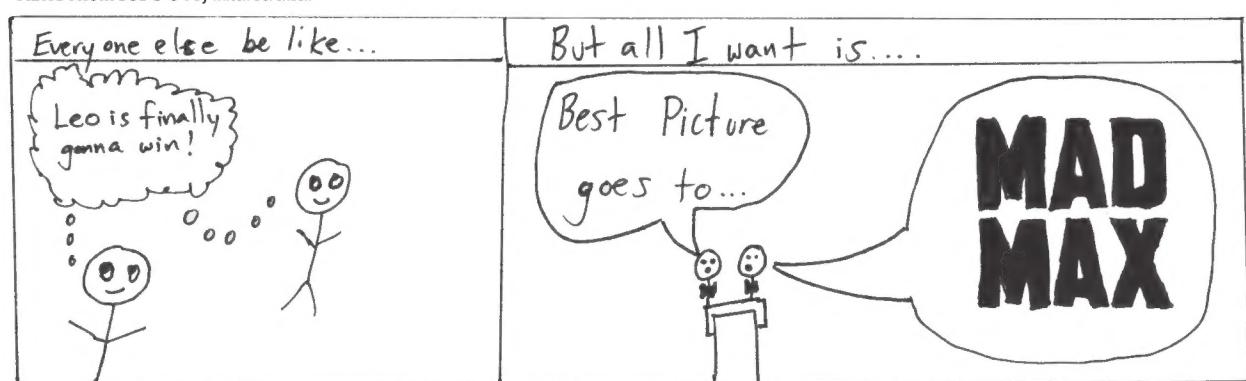
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